USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.
Suite 110
West Lafayette, IN 47906-4151
(765) 494-8371
nass-in@nass.usda.gov

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 6

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Scattered thunderstorms throughout the state limited fieldwork during the week, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn planting is nearly complete in many areas, but is lagging behind in some northeastern and southeastern counties. Soybean planting was hindered by wet soil conditions but is on pace with the 5-year average. Persistent rain showers and high humidity made it difficult for farmers to cut and bale hay during the week. The winter wheat crop is racing toward maturity, and harvest will begin soon in southern portions of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.2 **days suitable for field work**. Ninety-seven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 88 percent last year and 95 percent for the 5-year average. Ninety-two percent of the corn acreage has **emerged** compared with 69 percent last year and 86 percent for the 5-year average. Eighty-one percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 66 percent last year and 81 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 83 percent of the soybean crop has been planted in the north and central regions and 77 percent in the south.

Ninety-seven percent of the **winter wheat** crop is **headed** compared with 96 percent last year and 97 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 70 percent good to excellent compared with 76 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: herbicide applications, cleaning and storing planting equipment, nitrogen applications, cutting and baling hay, mowing roadsides and ditches, moving grain to market and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 80 percent good to excellent compared with 77 percent last year. Livestock were under some stress from the warm temperatures and high humidity. The **first cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 64 percent complete compared with 61 percent last year and 60 percent for the 5-year average.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	97	94	88	95
Corn Emerged	92	86	69	86
Soybeans Planted	81	70	66	81
Soybeans Emerged	69	52	39	63
Winter Wheat Headed	97	93	96	97
Alfalfa, First Cutting	64	47	61	60

CROP CONDITION

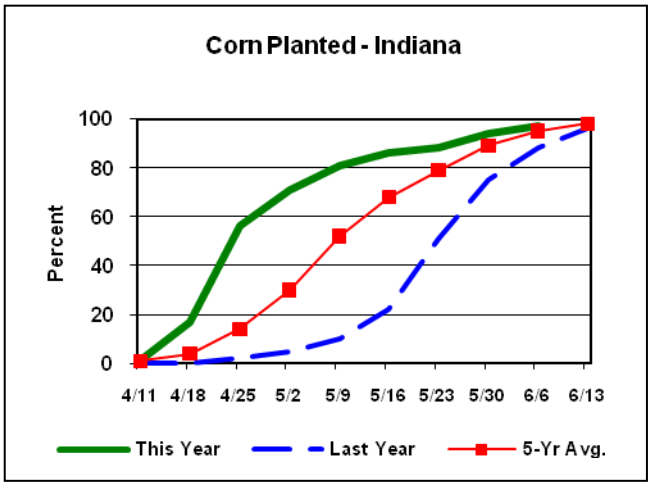
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	1	6	23	54	16
Soybean	1	4	28	53	14
Pasture	0	2	18	54	26
Winter Wheat	1	4	25	55	15

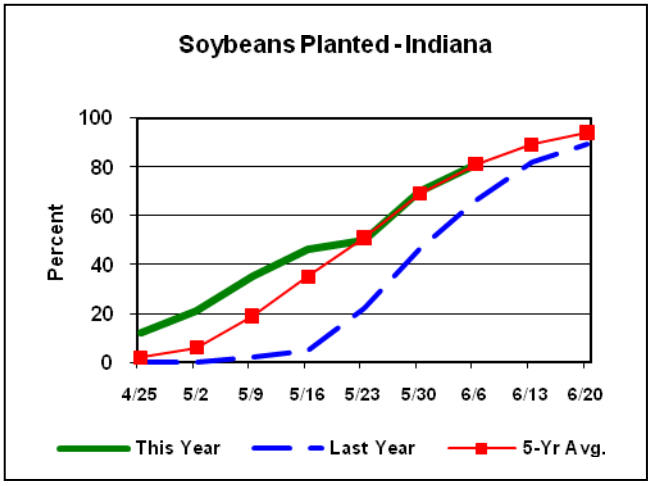
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	1	1	3
Adequate	62	69	67
Surplus	37	30	30
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	1	1	2
Adequate	70	75	72
Surplus	29	24	26
Days Suitable	3.2	4.4	3.9

CONTACT INFORMATION
--Greg Preston, Director
--Michael Flanigan, Student Intern
E-mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Some Ugly Ducklings Grow Up to be Ugly Ducks, Not Beautiful Swans

Some of the regulars uptown at the Chat 'n Chew Cafe have been griping about the article I wrote several weeks back that suggested that young corn that was looking ugly at the time would come out of it once it reached the V6 stage of development (Nielsen, 2010). It seems that everybody and his brother are still looking out their kitchen windows at fields of corn that remain stunted, yellow-green, and otherwise very uneven in their appearance. Everyone (farmers, their wives, their fathers, their landlords, their bankers) is wondering what on earth is going on with some of these fields and why these ugly ducklings are not turning into the beautiful swans that my aforementioned article suggested would happen.

In all fairness, I did say in that article that "if the plants hang in there until they reach the five- to six-leaf stage", then they would likely "turn the corner" and look much better. You have to admit that, indeed, there are quite a few fields that have done just that and look great today versus several weeks ago.

Unfortunately, quite a few other fields continue to look ugly even though they are approaching V5 and beyond. The question on everyone's mind is "Why have these fields deteriorated instead of improving?" Furthermore, sometimes ugly fields are across the road from beautiful fields. What's up with that?

There is no single answer that explains why there continue to be so many "ugly duckling" fields around the state at the moment. Instead, there are multiple possibilities occurring in all possible combinations from field to field. The degree of "ugliness" is very much dependent on the timing and duration of the particular causes of the problem for any given field.

Here is a short "laundry list" of the stressors contributing to the problems early in this growing season. Mix and match them to help diagnose the combination of factors for the field(s) of your choice. Many of these stressors can be more significant in continuous corn cropping systems, especially if minimal or zero tillage were used. The negative effect of many of these stressors will be greater the younger the crop was when they occurred. Hybrids naturally differ for tolerance to these stressors, which adds to the confusion when comparing one field to another.

Finally, remember that stressed plants that have not had time to recover do not tolerate subsequent stress as well as healthy plants. Consequently, healthy fields "turn the corner" and become beautiful swans and severely stressed field "stall out" and remain ugly ducks.

Looking east, a uniformly healthy field of corn.

Looking west, an ugly field. Approximately the same stage of development as the beautiful field, suggesting similar planting dates.

(continued on back page)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, June 6, 2010

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2010 thru June 6, 2010				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	90	56	73	+6	0.81	4		10.02	+1.72	28	736	+124
Francesville	88	55	72	+6	2.36	5		10.90	+2.89	28	722	+182
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	54	71	+6	1.16	5		9.99	+1.34	28	717	+205
Wanatah	92	53	71	+6	1.70	4	73	9.28	+1.10	26	663	+201
Winamac	90	56	73	+7	1.73	4	73	9.53	+1.52	27	754	+214
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	90	55	72	+6	1.67	4		10.29	+1.83	26	688	+121
South_Bend	89	54	71	+6	1.91	3		9.20	+1.40	26	710	+220
Young_America	90	58	73	+7	1.79	4		10.60	+2.65	23	756	+218
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	91	61	75	+9	1.94	6		11.11	+3.58	31	854	+337
Kendallville	88	57	72	+7	2.57	6		8.96	+1.15	34	668	+177
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	88	61	73	+5	1.50	6		8.81	-0.39	30	763	+98
Perrysville	92	59	75	+8	1.43	4	79	8.03	-0.72	27	899	+305
Spencer_Ag	88	63	75	+8	2.46	4		13.12	+3.47	29	835	+239
Terre_Haute_AFB	88	63	76	+8	1.73	6		10.68	+1.59	32	947	+289
W_Lafayette_6NW	92	57	74	+8	1.33	3	78	8.95	+0.63	23	824	+279
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	89	62	76	+9	1.10	6		7.69	-0.71	30	966	+318
Greenfield	89	63	75	+8	1.59	6		10.86	+1.88	30	862	+266
Indianapolis_AP	89	63	77	+9	1.17	4		8.36	-0.04	26	1006	+358
Indianapolis_SE	88	63	74	+7	1.60	4		9.24	+0.42	26	849	+224
Tipton_Ag	90	61	73	+7	0.84	3	76	7.90	-0.51	27	784	+279
East Central (6)												
Farmland	89	62	74	+9	1.69	5	73	10.31	+2.15	33	795	+308
New_Castle	88	59	74	+8	2.27	5		10.54	+1.25	27	767	+266
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	89	66	79	+8	0.18	3		6.48	-3.05	25	1131	+304
Freelandville	88	65	77	+8	1.01	2		11.06	+1.34	27	989	+296
Shoals_8S	88	61	75	+8	3.19	2		13.88	+3.65	22	884	+218
Stendal	90	67	78	+9	1.44	3		8.70	-1.84	23	1162	+410
Vincennes_5NE	92	59	77	+9	0.59	2	83	10.28	+0.56	28	1013	+320
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	88	64	76	+9	0.72	7		11.14	+0.90	34	997	+326
Oolitic	86	62	75	+8	0.70	3	80	10.87	+1.22	31	859	+244
Tell_City	89	67	77	+8	0.74	1		11.89	+1.45	21	1105	+336
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	91	60	76	+10	1.41	4		8.52	-0.73	28	872	+324
Greensburg	90	65	77	+10	1.24	4		8.30	-1.33	26	982	+379
Seymour	87	63	75	+8	0.53	3		8.35	-0.80	25	860	+227

DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

Corn Crop Stressors Thus Far in 2010

- Frequent and / or heavy rain events that kept surface soils saturated for lengthy periods of time.
- Leaching of mobile nutrients, like nitrogen, below the root depth of the young corn plants.
- Several weeks of cool and cloudy weather that certainly was not optimum for photosynthesis.
- Herbicide injury due to slow corn plant metabolism during cool, cloudy weather.
- Above-ground frost damage; especially if multiple occurrences.
- Above-ground damage to blowing sand / soil particles; aka "sand blasting"; especially if multiple occurrences.
- Damage to kernels or seedlings from a number of pests including wireworms, slugs, nematodes, seedling blight, and anthracnose.
- Nitrogen tieup by soil microbes responsible for decomposing residues near the surface; especially corn following corn.
- Soil compaction from last fall's late, wet harvest; aggravates the saturated soil problem.
- Soil compaction from tillage and planting operations this spring; aggravates the saturated soil problem.
- Natural spatial variability within fields for soil drainage characteristics.
- Natural spatial variability within fields for soil color; affects early soil temperatures and seedling development.
- Tile drainage systems that are non-existent, inadequate or poorly functioning.
- Excessively low soil pH; affects early root development.
- No starter fertilizer or inadequate starter fertilizer rates; not desirable in a year like this.

Anthracnose in young corn

Leaf injury caused by slug feeding.

Additional pictures can be viewed on the web site at: http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.10/UglyCorn-0602.html Published 6/02/2010

Written by R. L. (Bob) Nielsen, Agronomy Dept., Purdue Univ., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054

Email address: rnielsen@purdue.edu

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WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

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